

# European School Council (ESC)

## 8 December 98

1. The following attended the European School Council (ECS) on 8 December 98:

a. Members attending:

LTG Michael A. Canavan, Chief of Staff, U.S. European Command  
Lt Gen William J. Begert, Vice Commander, USAFE  
LTG Robert S. Coffey, Deputy Commanding General, USAREUR  
RADM Michael D. Haskins, Deputy Commander in Chief, USNAVEUR  
Col (P) Pete Chiarelli  
Col Charles F. Young, Chief of Staff, MARFOREUR  
Mr. Harvey Gerry, Chief, Education Division, DoDEA

b. Guests attending:

Col J. Michael Lynch, Deputy, ECJ1  
CAPT Lynn Hanel, Deputy Chief of Staff, Manpower, Personnel, and Training  
COL Andrew J. Stanley, Chief, Operations and Policy Division  
LTC(P) Daniel Nolan III, Assistant ODCSPER, USAREUR  
CDR J. W. Hibbard, Deputy N1, USNAVEUR  
Lt Col Hugh Heny, G1, MARFOREUR  
Mr. William Cornell, DoDDS Liaison Officer, USAFE  
Ms. Ruth McWilliams, DoDDS Liaison Officer, USAREUR  
Ms. Deborah Williams, DoDDS Liaison Officer, USNAVEUR  
Mr. Scott Haines, DoDDS Liaison Officer, USEUCOM  
MAJ Robert Walton, DoDDS Action Officer, USEUCOM  
ENS Kevin Short, DoDDS Action Officer, USEUCOM  
Petty Officer Deborah Stone, DoDDS Non-Commissioned Action Officer, USEUCOM

2. The meeting began with LTG Canavan's welcoming remarks commenting there was much to do and we should get started.

3. Colonel Lynch began the agenda by summarizing the EUCOM Education Program Requirements Conference. He discussed the top eight priorities selected by the conference attendees and the remaining outcomes. Conference participants then briefed the ESC on the details of each outcome. The results of the conference will be presented at the January "CCC" in EUCOM. LTG Begert asked that we correct the "Opportunity Comparison" slide, Mascoutah High School is not in St. Louis. Col Young asked why the teachers did not attend the conference. Mr. Gerry answered the question stating that DoDEA wanted EUCOM's raw data before proceeding with the development of their new Strategic Plan.

**Action:** EUCOM will prepare the final conference results and send to the components for comments.

4. LTG Canavan expressed his appreciation to the conference participants and thanked them for their support and their work and braving the difficult weather conditions for this major undertaking.

**5. Medical coverage at sporting events.** Previous policy by the ESC was to define contact sports as football, soccer, and wrestling and medical personnel are required at the sporting events with a means to contact an ambulance. For non-contact sports personnel will have the means to contact medical help. Discussion new today was on having ambulance coverage at all contact sporting events, plus the question of should basketball be added to the contact list. Unanswered questions are 1) How will it be paid for; 2) What is the medical evidence that requires an ambulance on hand; 3) What do the theater medical staffs recommend in regards to the ambulance and basketball.

**Action:** ECJ1 will work with Command Surgeon for recommendations on options 2 and 3 and option 1 be discussed informally at the 28 Jan DEC.

**6. 5-year Principal Rotation.** Mr. Gerry sought the European Schools Council position on the 5-year principal rotation policy. Members of the council unanimously agreed with the policy that principals should be rotated after 5 years.

**Action:** Completed.

**7. Patch Vandalism – USAREUR.** After a discussion led by LTG Coffey it was decided that there are systems in place to handle a vandalism act caused by a dependent student.

**Action:** Closed

**8. Centralized Tasking.** Mr. Gerry led a discussion by stating DoDEA needs to know the theater's priorities before requirements are resourced. Mr. Gerry provided an example from the last ACDE; component commands presented different priorities for theater dependent education needs. This discussion broadened into several areas ranging from our education system is not bad to comments on the new curriculum standards not being user friendly. The transient population was discussed in various aspects including how moving in and out of different systems relates to curriculum standards and is there a way for parents to know i.e. what is expected in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade. LTG Coffey shared with the council a powerful recommendation from the ACDE stating that DoDDS problems are community problems and must be integrated as one. Council members discussed where recommendations from the ESC should go and what Dr. Gonzalez is expected to do when General Clark weighs in on a particular issue.

**Action:** ECJ1 continue staffing Education Program Requirements Conference product with components and present at the February "CCC" for approval.

**9. Exceptional Family Member Program.** Mr. Harvey Gerry identified the continuing problem with exceptional family members arriving in theater at locations that are unable to provide necessary assistance. This is costing DoDEA approximately \$1M in SY 97-98. As the council discussed the matter it became apparent that medical personnel are not available in these areas either. Personnel systems must not send personnel to areas that are not identified as having the capability to treat exceptional family members. Civilian personnel do not have to comply with the exceptional family member program as it is against public law to screen civilian employees.

**Action:** EUCOM work with EUCOM Legal to staff a package requesting the issue exempting civilian personnel from screening

**10. Free or Reduced Lunch Program.** Mr. Haines asked the council for guidance as there have been numerous DoDDS Information line calls, EMAILs, and Senior Enlisted forums identifying an inequity exists in the computation for the eligibility for the free and reduced lunch program depending if you live on or off the installation. The original USDA and DoD Directive considers the value of housing as income in the eligibility computations. In 1990, Christopher Jehn (Asst SECDEF for FM&P) made a ruling that exempted the value of housing, as income if you lived on base stating the payment in kind should not be included. Currently, the value of housing is not considered income (payment in kind) as income if you live on base but the value of housing is considered as income included when living off base. CINCPAC has asked the inequity to be revisited in 1996, and Fred Pang (Asst SECDEF for FM&P) upheld the previous ruling. Mr. Haines pointed out the risk in asking for another review could result in reversing the decision made in 1990 thereby changing the eligibility of service members living on base. The council decided not to revisit the issue and remain as is understanding the inequity exists.

**Action:** Closed.

**11. School Intern Housing.** Each year approximately 100 student teachers are placed with DoDDS-E teachers for their on-site training each school year. Student teachers receive no compensation for their services while in this capacity. DoDDS-E is asking local commanders to provide free or reduced cost housing to support these students while working and learning in the military communities. DoDDS-E is facing a forthcoming teacher shortfall in the future and as a result will be facing high competition for highly skilled educators. This action helps to provide a strong incentive to maintain and increase participation in this important and valuable program for DoDDS-E.

**Action:** EUCOM and components review the legality and availability providing housing to student teachers.

**12. DEC Agenda items.** Components will provide agenda items to EUCOM for presentation at the January "CCC."

**Action:** EUCOM and Components.

**13. New items.** USAFE submitted items that will be discussed at the next ESC.

- a. Status of efforts to secure funding

- b. Establish pilot summer school programs
- c. Staffing standards
- d. Capping class sizes
- e. Current manning standards for high school guidance counselors

#### **14. Open Discussion.**

- a. Staffing standard for guidance counselors and psychologists are inadequate. Currently the staffing standards are: guidance counselors - 1 per 600 students in Grades K-6 and 1 per 450 students in Grades 7-12, and psychologists 1 per 3000 students, computed by district.

**Action:** DoDEA provide any improvements being worked for these areas.

- b. RADM Haskins asked Mr. Gerry the status of Longitudinal Study. This is the study that will track DoDDS students as they leave the DoDDS system and go on to other schools or on to college as well as evaluating students after they have been in the DoDDS system for 6 months.

**Action:** DoDEA will begin the study in February.

- c. A discussion developed concerning various aspects of the DoDDS Sports program. Two items of concern were the amount of time out of school and travelling to events out of country.

**Action:** Sports Tiger Team results will be briefed at next ESC.

- d. A discussion of the quality of food being provided at DoDDS schools and especially the London Dormitory developed. It was mentioned that problems surface and attention is directed to the problem and all is fine temporarily. Permanent corrections must be developed. Another point of discussion was why AAFES provide this service and what are the alternatives.

**Action:** Commander of AAFES Europe has been invited to the next ESC.

- e. First time overseas DoDDS teachers need more time for inprocessing and familiarization before schools begin. (NAVEUR CCAC issue)

**Action:** Work with DoDEA to see what can be done. NAVEUR may submit this item as a DEC agenda item.

15. Next ESC will be held the week of 22 February 99 at Heidelberg, and the one after that will be 26 April 99 at Wiesbaden.

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